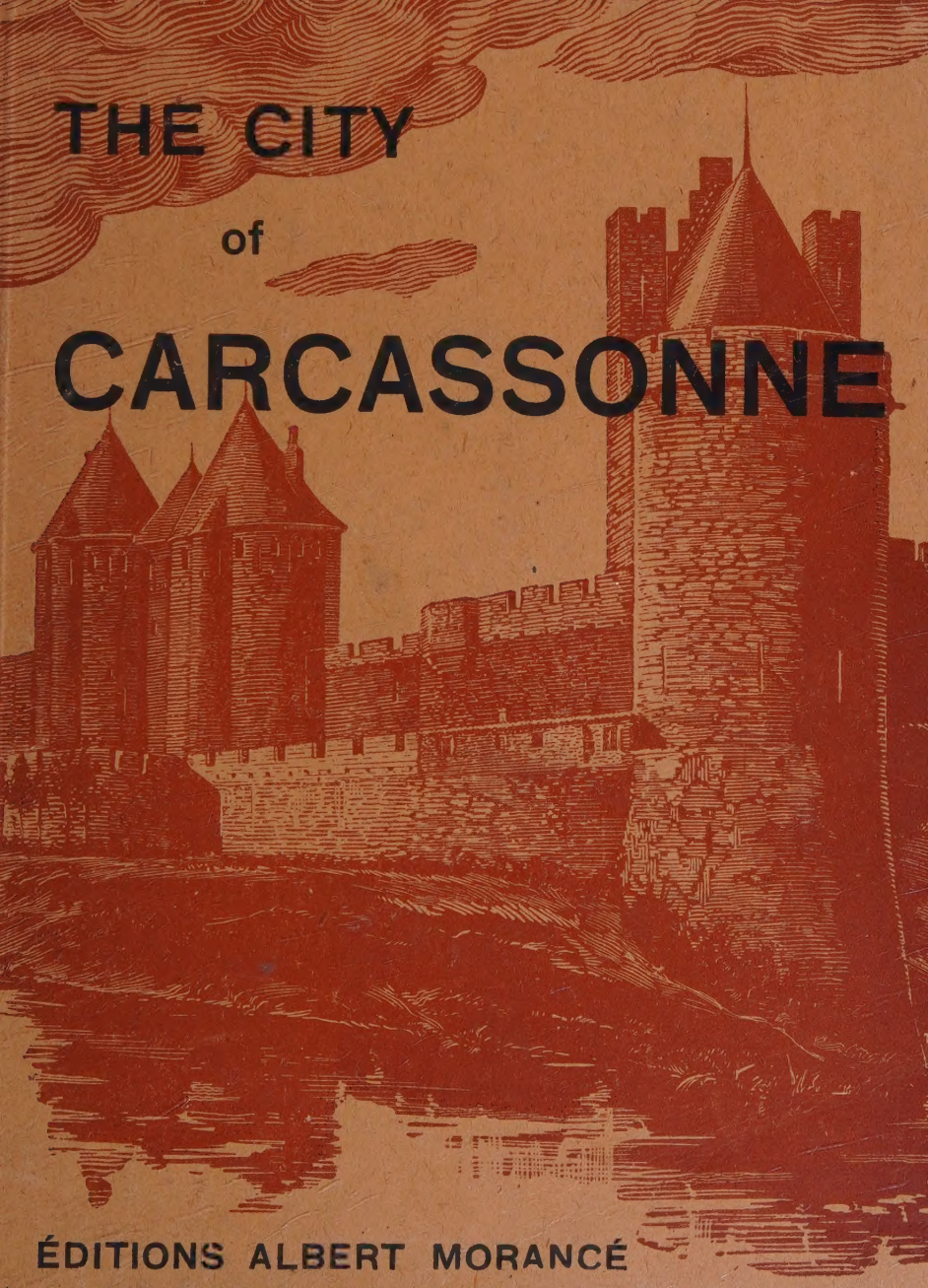


THE CITY

of

CARCASSONNE



ÉDITIONS ALBERT MORANCÉ

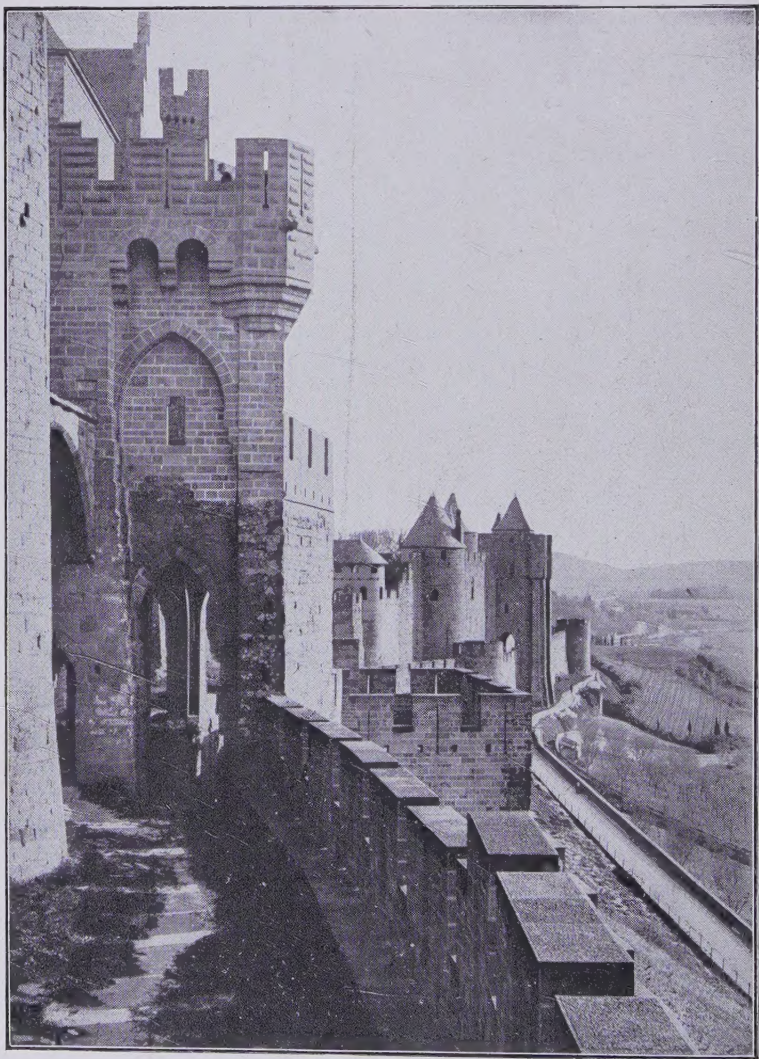


~~E27
TAAJ~~

16148

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024

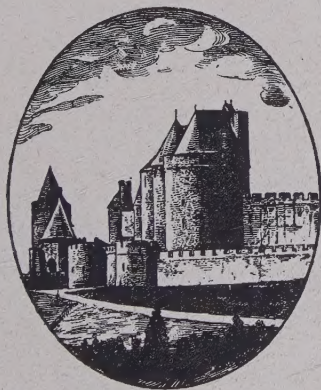
https://archive.org/details/bwb_KS-118-164



THE GREAT WATCH-TOWER OF THE CHATEAU.

VIOLET-LE-DUC

THE CITY
OF
CARCASSONNE



AND A VISITOR'S GUIDE
BY MICHEL JORDY

ÉDITIONS ALBERT MORANCÉ
30-32, Rue de Fleurus, à Paris

ALBERT MORANCÉ
PUBLISHER, PARIS



LATE FIRM MOREL
ESTABLISHED 1780

PRINTED IN FRANCE
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

BY VIOLLET-LE-DUC

STRATEGICAL SITUATION

The table-land on which the city of Carcassonne is built commands the valley of the Aude, and, consequently, the natural road from Narbonne to Toulouse. It rises between the Black Mountain and the slopes of the Pyrenees, precisely at the top of the angle formed by the river Aude on leaving those steep slopes to turn off towards the East. Carcassonne happens thus to bestride the only valley which leads from the Mediterranean sea to the Ocean, and besides lies at the entrance to the passes which lead into Spain through Limoux, Ales, Quillan, Mont-Louis, Livia, Puicerda or Campredon.

CHIEF HISTORICAL EVENTS

The Romans. — About the year 636 after the foundation of Rome, the Senate having decided on the advice of Lucius Crassus that a Roman colony should be established at Narbonne, the border of the Pyrenees was soon provided with important posts in order to keep the passages into Spain and defend the course of the rivers. The « Volcae Tectosages », having opposed no resistance to the Roman armies, the Republic granted to the inhabitants of Carcassonne, Lodève, Nîmes,

Pézenas and Toulouse the privilege of governing themselves according to their laws and under their magistrates. In the year 70 B. C., Carcassonne was classed with cities said to be *noble* or *elected*. What happened to Carcassonne since then down to the fourth century is unknown. Like all the cities of Southern Gaul, it enjoyed profound peace, but, after the disasters of the Empire, it was only considered as a citadel (*castellum*). In 350 the Franks took it, but, soon after, the Romans entered it again.

The Visigoths. — In 407 the Goths penetrated into the « Narbonnaise première », laid that province waste, passed into Spain, and, in 436, Theodoric, king of the Visigoths, took Carcassonne. According to the treaty of peace which he concluded with the Empire in 439, he remained possessor of that city with all its territory, and the « Novempopulania » situated to the west of Toulouse.

In 508 Clovis laid siege to Carcassonne and was obliged to break up his camp without having succeeded in taking the town.

In 588 the city opened its gates to Austrovalde, Duke of Toulouse, siding with king Gontran; but, soon after, the French army having been defeated by Claude, Duke of Lusitania, Carcassonne fell again into the power of Reccarede, king of the Visigoths. It was in 713 that the kingdom came to an end.

The Moors. — The Moors of Spain then became possessors of Septimania, under the command of Moussaben-Nossaïr.

The Feudal Period. — We can only make vague conjectures as to what befell Carcassonne during the next four centuries :

between the domination of the Visigoths and the beginning of the XIIth century we find no certain traces of constructions in the city any more than on its walls. But, from the end of the XIth century, important works were undertaken at several points. In 1096 Pope Urbain II came to Carcassonne to reestablish peace between Bernard Aton and the citizens who had rebelled against him, and blessed the cathedral (St-Nazaire) as well as the materials prepared to finish it. It is to that time indeed that the building of the nave of the church can be ascribed.

Under Bernard Aton the burgesses of Carcassonne had formed a militia and peace does not seem to have reigned between that lord and his vassals, for the latter, beaten by the troops of Alphonse, Count of Toulouse, who had come to Bernard's help, were obliged to submit and give guarantees of their good faith. The possessions of the chief rebels were confiscated in favour of the few vassals who had remained loyal and Bernard Aton gave in fief to the latter the *towers* and houses of Carcassonne, on condition, says Dom Vaissette, «that they should keep watch and guard the city, some during four, the others during eight months of the year and reside there all the while with their families and vassals». These gentlemen, who called themselves lords of Carcassonne, swore an oath to the viscount to keep the city faithfully. Bernard Aton granted them sundry privileges and they engaged in their turn to do homage to him and swear fidelity. This is what gave birth, it seems, to the «mortes-payés» of the city of Carcassonne: they are citizens who still have to keep watch and enjoy therefore sundry privileges.

It was probably under Viscount Bernard Aton or, at the latest, under Roger III, about 1130, that the castle was built and the Visigothic walls repaired.

The crusade of the Albigenes. — On the first of August 1209 Carcassonne was besieged by the army of the Crusaders commanded by the famous Simon de Montfort.

Viscount Raymond-Roger Trencavel had had the defences of the city strengthened as well as those of the two faubourgs of Trivalle and Graveillant situated between the town and the river Aude, also towards the road to Narbonne.

The defenders, after losing the faubourgs; lacked water, and were constrained to capitulate. The siege undertaken by the army of the Crusaders lasted only from the 1st to the 15th of August, the day of the surrender of the town. It cannot be admitted that during that short time the besiegers were able to carry out the mining or sapping which ruined part of the walls and towers of the Visigoths; the less so as there are underpinnings made during the XIIth century, to consolidate and raise the towers, which had been greatly damaged through sap and mine.

It must then be admitted that the siege-works and the breaches which are to be traced especially on the northern side, are due to the Moors of Spain when they conquered this last bulwark of the Visigothic kings. It cannot be Bernard Aton, either, who did this mining, for the treaty which gave him back the city held by his rebellious subjects does not imply that he had to lay a long siege or that the defenders were reduced to the last extremity.

Viscount Raymond-Roger Trencavel, in defiance of the treaty which surrendered the city of Carcassonne to the Crusaders, died imprisoned in one of the towers in November 1209.

Royal period. — Later on, in 1226, Louis VIII despoiled his son, Raymond Trencavel, of all his lands, which had

been recovered from the Crusaders. Carcassonne was henceforth part of the royal domain and a seneschal ruled it for the king of France.

The siege of 1240. — In 1240, that young Viscount Raymond Trencavel, the last of the viscounts of Béziers and Carcassonne, who had been put into the hands of the Count of Foix (he was then two years old) turned up suddenly in the dioceses of Narbonne and Carcassonne with a body of troops from Catalonia and Aragon. Without meeting any serious resistance, he seized the castles of Montreal, the cities of Montolieu, Saissac, Limoux, Azillan and Laurens, and presented himself before Carcassonne.

There exist two versions, both written by eyes-witnesses, of the siege of Carcassonne undertaken by young Viscount Raymond in 1240 : that of Guillaume de Puy-Laurens, Inquisitor for the Faith in the region of Toulouse, and that of seneschal Guillaume des Ormes, who held the city for the king of France. The latter version is an account, in the form of a diary, addressed to Queen Blanche, the mother of Louis IX.

This important document explains to us all the dispositions for attack and defence ⁽¹⁾. At the time of the siege the walls of Carcassonne had neither the dimensions nor the strength which were given them later on by Louis IX and Philip the Bold. The remains, still very obvious, of the wall of the Visigoths, repaired in the XIIth century, and the excavations carried out recently allow us to trace exactly

1. The account of seneschal Guillaume des Ormes and that of Guillaume de Puy-Laurens have been published and annotated by M. Douët d'Arcq, in the *Biblioth. de l'Ecole des Chartes*, 2^e série, t. II, p. 363.

the defences existing at the time when Raymond Trencavel undertook to force them.

Trencavel's army invested the place on the 17th of September 1240 and carried the faubourg of Graveillant, which was immediately retaken by the besieged. That faubourg, says the account, is *ante portam Tolosæ*. Now the Toulouse gate is no other than the gate called « de l'Aude » nowadays. It is a Romanesque construction let into a Visigothic wall and the faubourg of Graveillant consequently can only be the faubourg called « de la Barbacane ». The sequel of the story shows us that this first surmise is accurate.

The besiegers came from Limoux, that is to say from the south; they had no need to cross the Aude before Carcassonne to invest the place. A stone bridge existed over the Aude. That bridge still stands entire to-day : it is the old bridge « *le vieux pont* », the building of which dates partly from the XIIth century. It was only repaired and supplied with a bridge-head under Saint-Louis and Philip the Bold.

Raymond Trencavel was aware that the besiegers were expecting rescuers who could only enter the city by passing the river Aude since they had to come from the north-west. Therefore the Viscount seized the bridge, and, pursuing his attack along the right bank of the river up stream, tried to cut off the besiegers from communication with the left bank.

Unable at first to maintain himself in the faubourg of Graveillant, he took a fortified mill, on an arm of the Aude, sent off his troops in that direction, lodged them in the lower parts of the faubourg, and continued his attack as follows : part of the besiegers commanded by Ollivier de Thermes, Bernard Hugon de Serre-Longue and Giraud d'Aniort, camped



GENERAL VIEW FROM THE NORTH.



THE PORTE NARBONNAISE.
Main entry.

between the north-western salient of the city and the river, dug trenches and surrounded themselves with palisaded intrenchments.

The other body, headed by Pierre de Fenouillet, Renaud de Puy and Guillaume Fort, was posted before the north-eastern barbican and that of the gate called Narbonnaise.

In 1240, besides those two barbicans, there existed another which led down from the castle into the suburbs and yet another facing the south. The western barbican also served to protect the Toulouse gate (to-day « porte de l'Aude »).

On first recovering the faubourg from the besiegers, the defenders of the city had hastened to carry into their walls a large quantity of wood which was very useful to them; but they had to give up the faubourg.

The Viscount then attacked at the same time the western barbican of the castle, to take from the besieged every chance of acting again on the offensive, the northern barbican, and the barbican of the « Porte Narbonnaise ».

The besiegers, encamped between the city and the river, were in a pretty bad position; they entrenched themselves therefore with great care and covered their front with such a great number of cross-bowmen that no one could leave the town without getting wounded.

They soon reared a mangonel before the western barbican.

The besieged, on the other hand, set up, within the walls of that barbican a « pierrière turque » ⁽¹⁾ which battered the mangonel.

Soon after, the besiegers began to undermine the barbican of the « porte Narbonnaise », starting their galleries from the

(1) A machine to fling stones.

houses of the faubourg which, on that side, nearly touched the defences.

The mines were shored up with wood to which they set fire, thus causing part of the defences of the barbican to fall.

But the besieged counter-mined in order to stop the progress of the enemy miners and repaired the part of the barbican still standing. On the two chief points of the attack, the men of the Viscount attempted to take the place by mining. These mines were pushed on with great activity; they were no sooner discovered than other galleries were begun.

The besiegers did not content themselves with these two attacks. While they battered the western barbican of the castle and ruined the barbican of the Porte Narbonnaise, they endeavoured to damage a part of the lists and launched a very vigorous attack between the bishop's palace and the cathedral of St Nazaire.

The attack of Trencavel's troops was very sharply pursued on that side (a weak point then); the mines reached the foundations of the Visigothic walls, the shores were set on fire and ten fathoms of curtains crumbled down. But the besieged had fortified themselves behind the breach with good palisades and « bretèches ⁽¹⁾ » so that the enemy troops dared not venture on an attack. Moreover mining-galleries were also opened before the Rodez gate (to the north); the besieged counter-mined and drove back the workmen of the besiegers.

Meanwhile, breaches had been opened at various points and Viscount Raymond, fearing to see at any moment the rescuers sent from the north appear, decided to attempt a general attack. His men were driven back with considerable loss.

(1) Small blockhouses made of timber.

and, four days later, hearing of the arrival of the royal army, he raised the siege after setting fire to the churches of the faubourg and among others, the church of the Minimes.

Trencavel's army had remained twenty-four days before the town.

Reign of Saint-Louis. — Louis IX, laying great store by the place of Carcassonne, which covered that part of the royal domain before Aragon, and wishing to have no further dread of the consequences of a siege which would have delivered it into the hands of an ever-watchful enemy, decided to make it an impregnable fortress.

We must add to the story of Seneschal Guillaume des Ormes a fact related by Guillaume de Puy-Laurens. In the night of the 8th to the 9th of September, the inhabitants of the faubourg of Carcassonne, in spite of their vow of fidelity to the noblemen who held for the king, had opened their gates to Trencavel's soldiers, who then directed from that faubourg an attack on the left, against the Porte Narbonnaise. Saint-Louis, directly after the siege was raised, had no need to destroy the «bourg», already burnt by Viscount Raymond, but, wishing on the one hand to punish the inhabitants for their breach of faith, on the other to have no further dread of a neighbourhood so dangerous for the city, he forbade the citizens of the faubourg of Graveillant to re-build their houses and had the faubourg of «la Trivalle» evacuated. The unfortunate people had to go into exile.

Louis IX immediately began important works of defence round the city; he had the remains of the faubourgs razed, cleared the ground between the city and the bridge and reared all the outward walls which we see to-day, so as to cover himself on all sides and take time to improve the

inner works. Noticing the weakness of the two parts of the walls against which Viscount Raymond had rightly aimed his two chief attacks, that is to say the south extremity and the Porte Narbonnaise, he extended the outward walls far beyond the old south salient on the table-land which commands, on that side, a ravine opening into the Aude, and towards the Porte Narbonnaise, about 30 metres further out, thus locking in the new works the two chief points of Trencavel's attack.

Bent on making the city of Carcassonne the bulwark of that part of the royal domain against all attacks from the heretic lords of the south provinces, Saint-Louis would not permit the inhabitants of the old faubourgs to re-build their dwellings in the neighbourhood of the city. At the prayer of Bishop Radulphe ⁽¹⁾, after seven years of exile, he consented only to allow the unfortunate refugees to settle on the other bank of the river Aude. Here are Saint-Louis letters patent sent on that score ⁽²⁾ :

« Louis, by the grace of God, King of France, to our friend and liege Jean de Cravis, seneschal of Carcassonne, greeting and love. We demand that you receive in safety the men of Carcassonne who had fled therefrom, because they had not paid to us the sums which they owed, after the payment of the said sums was due. As to the dwellings and habi-

(1) The tomb of that bishop is in the small chapel built at the extremity of the south arm of the cross of the church of Saint-Nazaire.

(2) *Hist. des Ant. et comtes de Carcassonne*, G. Besse, citizen of Carcassonne, Béziers, 1645. « Those letters, says Besse, were executed by the seneschal, *pridie nonas Aprilis*, that is to say on the 4th of April 1247 and, with the records of their execution, happen to have been transcribed in the language of the country, in the manuscript-book of the customs of Carcassonne. »

tations that they claim, you shall take advice and counsel of our friend and liege, the bishop of Carcassonne and of Raymond de Capendu and other good men, to grant them a place to inhabit provided no harm can come of it to our castle and city of Carcassonne. We wish you to give them back the property, inheritance and possessions which they enjoyed before the war and to let them enjoy their uses and customs so that we or our successors cannot change them. We require, however, that the said men of Carcassonne should re-make and build at their cost the churches of Notre-Dame and the Frères-Mineurs, which they had demolished; and, on the contrary, we require that you shall in no wise receive any of those who introduced the Viscount (of Trencavel) into the « bourg » of Carcassonne, such being traitors. Therefore you shall recall the others who are not guilty. And you shall tell on our behalf our friend and liege the bishop of Carcassonne, that he must renounce the fines which he claims from the fugitives, for which we shall be grateful to him. Given at Helvenas, the Monday after St Peter's See (la chaise de Saint Pierre). »

Although we do not possess the original text of the document, but only the transcription of it obviously altered by Besse, it is no less very important in that it gives us the date of the foundation of the present city of Carcassonne. Indeed, in execution of these letters patent, the site of the new bourg was laid out beyond the river Aude, and as that place belonged to the bishopric the king indemnified the bishop by giving him half of the town of Villalier. The records of the exchange were noted down at Aigues-Mortes with the seneschal in August 1243.

That bourg is nowadays the town of Carcassonne, built straight off, on a regular plan, with streets in straight rows,

intersecting one another at right angles and a square in the centre and two churches.

The prudence of Louis IX did not confine itself to clearing the outskirts of the city and to rearing new outer walls; he built the big circular works called « the Barbican » in place of the one which commanded the faubourg of Graveillant. That faubourg, rebuilt later on, took its name from those works.

He connected that barbican with the castle by fortified inclined planes, very cleverly conceived in order to defend the place. From the manner in which the works of the outer walls are made we have reason to think that the building was pushed on actively in order to guard the city from a sudden attack, and to find time to repair and enlarge the inner walls.

Reign of Philip the Bold. — Philip the Bold, when at war with the king of Aragon, continued those works with great activity. They were finished at the time of his death (1285). Carcassonne was the centre of the operations undertaken against the army of Aragon, and a safe shelter in case of failure.

In the place of the old gate called « Pressam » or « Narbonnaise », or « des Salins », Philip the Bold built an admirable defence, including the present « Porte Narbonnaise », the « Trésau » tower, and the fine neighbouring curtains. On the west-south-west side, on one of the points most sharply attacked by Trencavel's army, taking advantage of the salient which Saint-Louis had had made, he rebuilt all the inner works, that is to say, the towers n^{os} 39, 41, 40, 41, 42, 43 (Gate of « Razez, St-Nazaire, or des Lices »), as well as the high intermediate curtains, so as better to command the

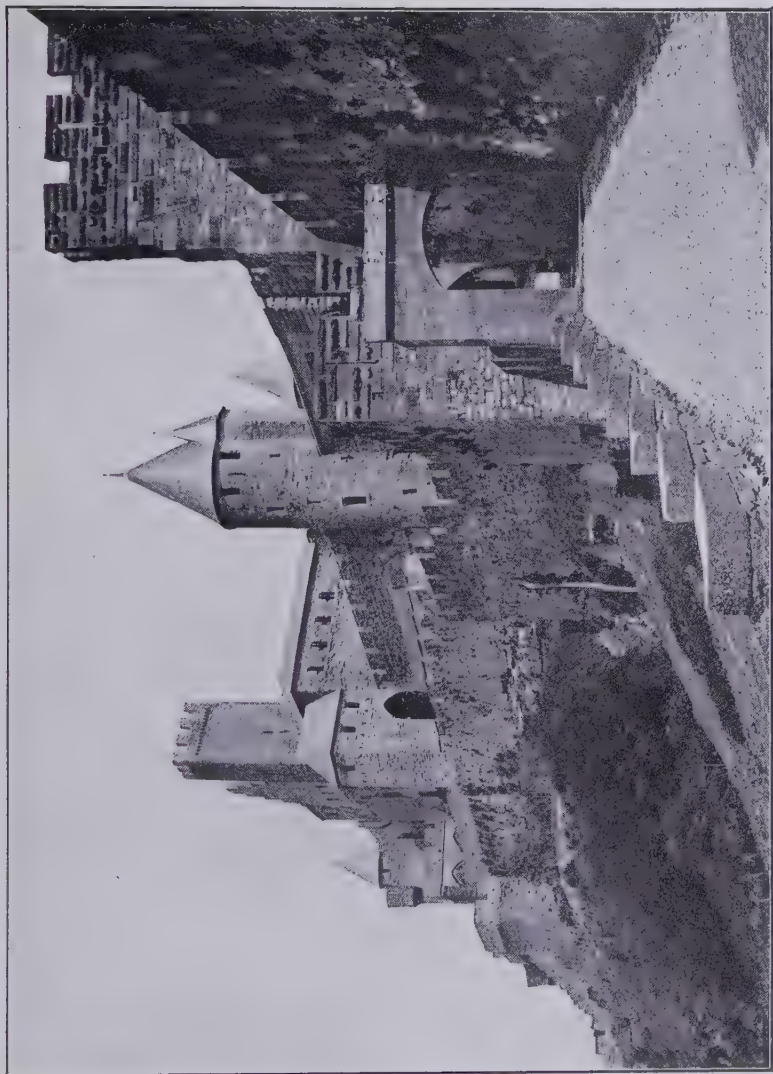
valley of the river Aude and the extremity of the table-land. A curious fact ascribes a definite date to the part of the walls which surrounded the bishop's palace. In August 1280, in Paris, King Philip allowed Isard, then bishop of Carcassonne, to open out four grated windows in the curtain against the palace, after taking the seneschal's advice and under the express condition that those windows should be walled up in case of war, with the reservation that they should be opened again at the end of the war. The king bound himself to make, at his cost, the sewers for the drainage of the waters of the palace, through the wall, and the bishop was to keep possession of the stories of the tower called the Bishop's tower (a square tower, n° 11, astride of the two walls), up to the loop-holing, without prejudice to the other rights of the bishop over the rest of the city walls. Now, those four windows were not opened afterwards, they were built at the same time as the curtain, and still exist between the towers n°s 39, 11 and 40 ; consequently those curtains and towers date from 1280. On the south and south-east sides, Philip the Bold had the Visigothic towers capped, raised and even re-built at some points, as well as the old curtains. On the north side the damaged parts of the old towers were repaired and a large barbican built before the entrance of the castle inside the city.

The outer walls, which I consider to be a few years older than the repairs carried out by Philip the Bold, to improve the inner walls—and I am going to give certain proofs thereof—are built of irregular materials (sandstone), set haphazard, but presenting a level facing, whereas all the constructions of the end of the XIIIth century are faced with

stones chiselled on the arris and form a sort of rustic bossage which imparts to those constructions a robust and very effective appearance. All the profiles of the towers of the inner wall repaired by Philip the Bold are exactly alike; the pendants of the arches of the vaults and the few sculptures such, for instance, as the statue of the Virgin and the niche placed above the «Porte Narbonnaise», undeniably belong to the end of the XIIIth century.

In those constructions the materials are of the same nature, from the same quarries, and the masonry is everywhere the same; everywhere we come across the same bossage, in the entirely new parts, like those of the west, the south-west and the east, as well as in the portions which were completed or restored in the Visigothic constructions and in those of the XIIIth century. The mouldings are finely carved and delicate, whereas the outer wall offers in its loopholes, its gates and its corbels very simple and broad outlines. The key-stones of the tower n° 18 (tower called de la Vade ou du Papegay) are decorated with sculptured figures presenting all the characteristics of the imagery of Saint-Louis time. Moreover, between the tower n° 7 and the western watch-tower, the parapet of the curtain has been raised, leaving however the primitive merlons, which are thus included in the higher masonry, so as to give to that curtain, considered to be too low, a wider command.

Now that superadded masonry is built in stones with bossage, the battlements are more distant from each other, the masonry much more careful than in the lower part and in everyway absolutely like the masonry of the 1280 structures. The difference between the two structures can be noticed by the most unpractised observer. Therefore the lower part being as to the mode of construction like all the rest of the



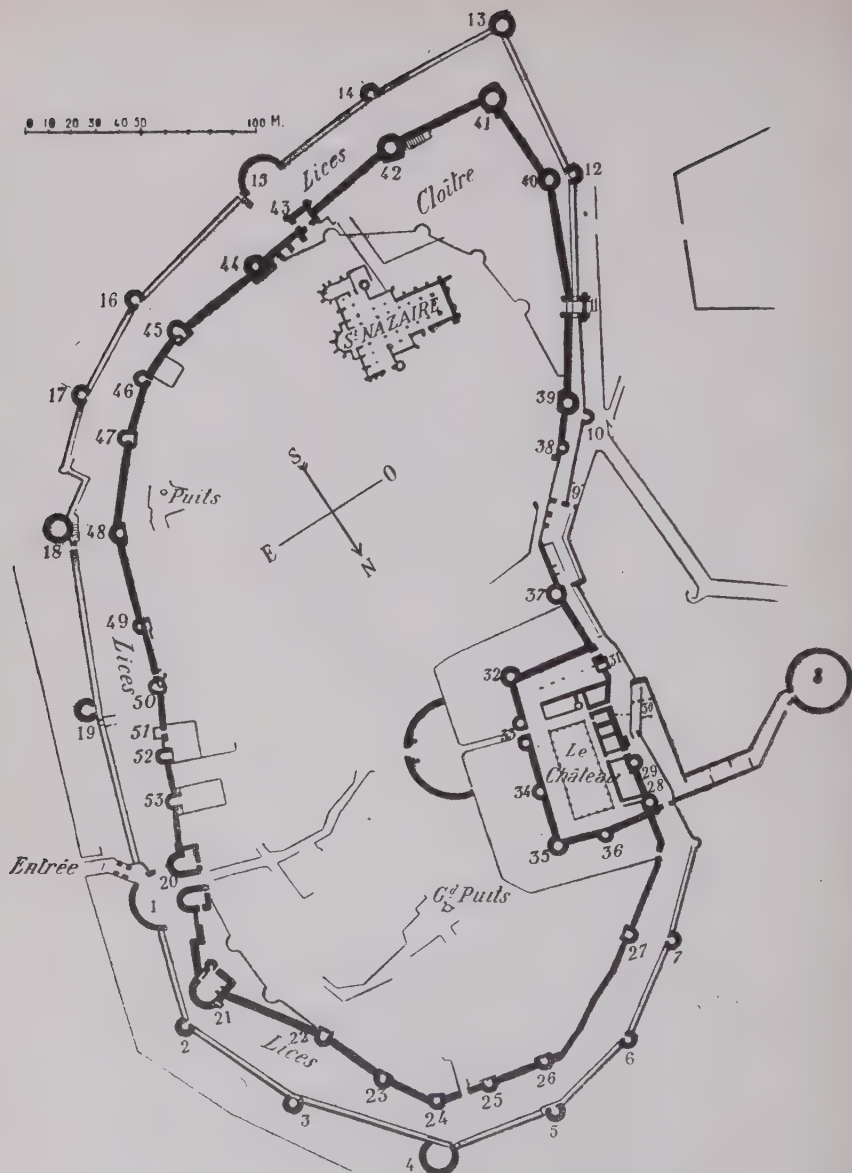
THE AUDE GATE.
Entry from the West.



DEFENCES OF THE GATE.

outer wall and the higher part similar in masonry to all the structures due to Philip the Bold, the outer wall was evidently erected before the restorations and additions undertaken by the son of Louis IX.

On the south-west side, the wall of the Visigoths ran along the western front of the cathedral of St-Nazaire. That front, raised, as we said, at the end of the XIth century or at the beginning to the XIIth, is only a very thick wall without any opening in the lower part. It commanded the Visigothic wall and was stronger at that vulnerable point, its coping consisted of battlements of which we have found the traces and which we have been able to reconstitute entirely. Between the fortifications of Philip the Bold and that front there was left a very wide space, and the upper defences of the « St-Nazaire » front remained purposeless since they no longer commanded the outworks. Since then no work of defence was undertaken in the city of Carcassonne and, throughout all the middle ages, the fortress was considered to be impregnable; the fact is, it was never attacked and only opened its gates to the Black Prince in 1355 when the whole region of Languedoc had submitted to that conqueror.



GENERAL PLAN OF THE CITY OF CARCASSONNE.
(Numbers refer to guide)

A VISITOR'S TOPOGRAPHICAL GUIDE

by Michel JORDY

A visit to such a marvellous fortified town as the city of Carcassonne requires several hours. The tourist should devote at least a full day to the visit, if he wishes to pass in review, in such an appropriate artistic setting, his remembrances of the salient military, religious, artistic and social events of the twenty centuries of History which have gone by since its foundation.

He should visit in turn :

1. The outer enceinte (the Lists);
2. The inner enceinte (the Ramparts);
3. The Château of the Counts and its museum;
4. The Church of St. Nazaire, the jewel of the city.

He should not leave Carcassonne without having visited the old town, with its ancient streets, houses and wells, etc.

OUTER ENCEINTE (THE LISTS).

The outer enceinte, which is of the greatest interest, and which I consider to be some years older than the repairs carried out by Philip the Bold to strengthen the inner enceinte, is built of rough-hewn material (sandstone), set at haphazard, but forming a level facing, whereas all the buildings of the end of the 13th century are faced with stones the arrisses of which have been dressed down, so as to form rustic bossages, the general effect being thus most striking and an air of strength being lent to the whole.

1. BARBICAN OF THE PORTE NARBONNAISE. — Outwork intended to defend the approach to the Porte Narbonnaise (n° 20). Battlements with hoarding and way of the rounds; eight wide loop-holes on the ground floor. *Notice must be taken of the first loop-hole on the left, which was modified in the 13th century to allow of the use of musketry.*

2. TOUR DE BÉRARD. — Flanks the north-east angle. Round on the side looking on to the ditch, square on that looking on to the Lists.

3. TOUR DE BENAZET. — Circular on the inside, surrounded with a flat wall, with a dormer on a level with the Lists; two stories above a cellar. *This tower, like several others, intercepts the way of the rounds, and thus strengthens the defence by isolating the assailants between two towers.*

4. BARBICAN NOTRE-DAME. — Semi-circular, defending the

Rodez Gate; wide way of the rounds, battlemented and provided with hoardings.

5. TOUR DE MOURETIS. — 6. TOUR DE LA GLACIÈRE. — Cylindrical on the inside, with battlemented way of the rounds provided with hoardings; stories separated and made independent by wooden flooring easy to tear up or destroy. These two towers are built practically on the same plan as the Tour 7, called the Tour de la Porte Rouge.

7. TOUR DE LA PORTE ROUGE. — *Has two stories, surmounted by a battlement. As the ground slopes up sharply from north to south, the two ways of the rounds on the curtains are not on the same level. The upper way is three metres above the lower one.*

The Curtain (between the Tour 7 and the little north-western watch-tower) was built in the time of Saint Louis and raised by Philip the Bold above the old battlements. The ground of the Lists was also raised at this point.

The little north-western watch-tower commands this angle. Battlemented. Two machicolations. — A good view is obtained from this point over the fine line of ramparts defending the Château.

8. GREAT OUTER BARBICAN OF THE CHATEAU. — *Pulled down in 1816 to build the factory of the "Ile".*

9. OUTER GATE ON THE AUDE. — First barrier defending the approach to the city from the river. Many obstacles and windings obliging the assailant to uncover himself. Under the vaulted passage is an ancient cistern.

10. TOUR DU PETIT CANISOU. — Half round, closed at the gorge on the ground floor.

11. TOUR CARRÉE DE L'EVÊQUE. — *Astride the Lists, commands the two enceintes, and could intercept at this point the communications between the southern and northern parts of the Lists. The two arches thrown across the passage were however defended merely by two outer machicolations and one pierced in the middle of the vault.*

This tower is extremely fine, excellently built, and rises proudly above the two enceintes, breaking their uniformity. Besides intercepting communication between the Lists, it also bars the upper way of the rounds on the Curtains.

The inner stairs are built so as to make the access to the battlements independent of that to the vaulted rooms.

12. TOUR DU GRAND CANISOU. — Same arrangement as the tower number 10.

13. TOUR DU GRAND BRULAS. — An important work, with a salient spur, intended to defend the south-western angle. It was built with special care.

14. TOUR D'OURLIAC. — Intercepts progress along the way of the rounds thanks to two gates easy to block up.

15. TOUR CRÉMADE. — (*Barbican of the Postern St. Nazaïre*). *Covers sallies and the return. Close at hand a low narrow postern leading into the ditch.*

16. TOUR CAUTIÈRES. — 17. TOUR POULETO. — Same system of defence as tower number 14.

17. TOUR POULÉTO.

18. TOUR DE LA VADE or TOUR DU PAPEGAY. — Outer dungeon, quite independent. Three spacious stories, with ogive vaulting. Open.

19. TOUR DE LA PEYRE. — Open on the town side in the upper part so as not to serve for defensive purposes against the inner ramparts.

INNER ENCEINTE (THE RAMPARTS).

The inner enceinte was built during the domination of the Visigoths upon the remains of Roman fortifications. As a matter of fact, most of the Visigothic towers still standing rest upon such foundations.

It is still easy to trace the lines of the enceinte of the Visigoths.

20. PORTE NARBONNAISE. — *Principal entrance, the only one that can be entered by convoys; defended by a ditch and a barbican (n° 1). The entrance is set slantwise, so as to mask the gateway of the principal work.*

It is preceded by a small castle, which can be isolated from the Barbican. It is astride of the Bridge, which has two movable wooden floors, the pins of which are still in their places.

On the outer side, the two great towers, between which the gateway opens, are strengthened by spurs, meant to force the assailants to uncover themselves by obliging them to attack elsewhere than at the weakest point.

Above the arch of the gateway is a graceful niche, containing a Gothic statue of the Virgin.

21. TOUR DU TRÉSAU, also called the TOUR DU TRÉSOR. — *Magnificent 13th century work, of the same period as the Porte Narbonnaise. It overlooked all the countryside and the town. Commanded the plateau, the Barbican of the Porte*

Narbonnaise, and prevented the enemy from deploying to the north in the Lists.

22. TOUR DU MOULIN DU CONNÉTABLE. — The Gallo-Roman foundations are sustained by substructions dating back to the time of Saint-Louis. Visigothic masonry reaching half-way up. This tower has served as a windmill.

23. TOUR DU VIEULAS. — Gallo-Roman foundations protected and sustained by works dating back to the time of Saint Louis. Leans sharply forward, the ground having given way from the sapping carried out during the siege of 1240, which also brought down the south curtain. The upper part was re-built and set straight in the 13th century.

24. TOUR DE LA MARQUIÈRE. — Leans to the left for the same reason as tower number 23.

RODEZ GATE, *between towers 24 and 25. Pierced in the Visigothic enceinte in the 12th century and repaired in the 13th.*

25. TOUR DE SAMSON. — Partly reconstituted in a thorough-going Visigothic style.

26. TOUR DU MOULIN D'AVAR. — Gallo-Roman, repaired in the 13th century. Was used as a wind-mill in the 19th century.

In the north-west angle a curious *Postern* built of huge blocks of stone. Probably one of the side gates of the Roman *Castellum*.

27. TOUR DE LA CHARPENTIÈRE. — Gallo-Roman basis, about two metres above the level of the ground, sustained by 13th-century substructions. Its name comes from the neigh-



ENTRY OF THE CHATEAU.



THE CHURCH OF SAINT-NAZAIRE.

bourhood of the work-shops or stores of wood used in defence.

Curtain between towers 27 and 28. — Gallo-Roman construction resting on works dating back to the time of Saint Louis.

The Towers bearing the numbers from 29 to 37 and the rampart joining these towers are part of the defences of the château on the river side.

28. TOUR DE LA CHAPELLE. — Reconstituted as it was in the time of the Visigoths. The basis is Gallo-Roman with a 13th century facing. The Chapel of the Château was close to this tower.

29. TOUR DE LA POUDRE. — Built in the 13th century (Saint-Louis), on the site of a tower in the primitive enceinte.

30. OUTER GATE OF THE CHATEAU. — Intercepted the passage of the assailants between the Château and the Great Barbican number 8.

31. TOUR PEINTE OR PINTE. — The only square tower in the City, which has led to the supposition that it was built by the Arabs. Gallo-Roman bases with masonry of different periods further up.

32. TOUR SAINT-PAUL. — 33. TOWERS OF THE GATEWAY OF THE CHATEAU. — 34. TOUR DES CASERNES. — 35. TOUR DU MAJOR. — 36. TOUR DU DEGRÉ.

These towers surround the Château on three sides, on the east, south and north, and were built in feudal times with 13th century battlements.

37. TOUR DE LA JUSTICE. — Built in the time of Saint

Louis on the site of a Gallo-Roman tower, between two curtains belonging to that period. It was the seat of the "King's Justice" and also that of the Tribunal of the Inquisition.

AUDE GATE (formerly the Toulouse Gate). Between towers 37 and 38. — *This gate was pierced in the Visigothic wall in the 12th century.*

38. TOUR VISIGOTHE. — The basis of this tower is similar in every way to that of Tower 28.

39. TOUR DE L'INQUISITION. — *In this tower was discovered a dungeon with a central pillar to which chains were fastened.*

40. TOUR DE CAHUZAC. — *The way of the rounds goes all round this tower, and is covered by a pent-roof.*

41. TOUR MIPRADE, OR TOUR DE PRADE OR TOUR DU COIN. — *Built at the angle at the end of the west salient.*

42. TOUR DU MOULIN. — *Formerly contained the machinery of a wind-mill.*

At the foot of this tower is the stage of the *City Theatre*.

43. TOUR SAINT-NAZAIRE. — *This tower, square in shape, is one of the most remarkable in the city.*

44. TOUR SAINT-MARTIN. — *This tower, like towers 41 and 42 and those of the Porte Narbonnaise, is strengthened by a salient spur.*

45. TOUR DES PRISONS. — 46. TOUR DE CASTERA. — 47. TOUR DU PLO. — 49. TOUR DE DAVEJEAN. — 50. TOUR SAINT-LAURENT. — 52. TOUR DU TRAUQUET. — 53. TOUR SAINT-SERNIN.

Built on the foundations of the primitive towers.

48. TOUR DE BALTHAZAR. — *Rebuilt from top to bottom by Philip the Bold.*

51. INNER STAIRCASE leading down to the POSTERN OF THE TOUR DE LA PEYRE.

THE CHATEAU

It is built at the highest point of the City. It was probably erected in the time of Viscount Aton, or, at latest, under Roger III, towards 1130.

ENTRANCE TOWERS. — *The two towers flanking this entrance contain two stories with a semicircular round vault and pierced with loop-holes.*

INSIDE OF THE CHATEAU. — *After having passed through the GATE of the CHATEAU, the visitor enters a spacious courtyard, surrounded to-day with modern buildings, which have been built against the curtains and towers.*

These buildings were erected on the site of porticoes dating back to the 13th century. The supports of all of them are still to be seen.

WEST FRONT OF THE CHATEAU. — *The most interesting point for the study of the Château of the City is on the west front. This side looks over the country and faces the Great Barbican number 8, built at the bottom of the escarpment.*

THE CHURCH OF ST. NAZAIRE

This church, the old Cathedral, is composed of a nave, the construction of which dates back to the end of the 11th century or the beginning of the 12th, and a transept, with an apse and chapels dating back to the beginning of the 14th century.

In 1096 Pope Urban II came to Carcassonne. He blessed the Church of St. Nazaire as well as the materials prepared for its completion.

An 11th century crypt was discovered in 1857. Central vault of the nave semicircular and groined.

The choir, transept and chapels were erected under the bishopric of Pierre de Roquefort, between 1300 and 1320.

This bishop made his cathedral, so small in size, a marvel of grace and glory.

The stained-glass windows, which are of large size and many in number, making the apse and the transept like a genuine lantern, are of the greatest magnificence of composition and colouring. The Sanctuary, the pillars of which are adorned with statues of the Apostles, was painted throughout.

The tomb of Pierre de Roquefort, which stands in one of the side Chapels, is one of the most graceful monuments of the 14th century.

The Tomb of Bishop Radulphe, the inscription on which bears the date of 1266, stands in another chapel contiguous to the Church.

CONCLUSION

This summary description of the City of Carcassonne may perhaps bring out the value of these remains, their interest, and the importance of preserving them from decay.

I doubt whether there be elsewhere in Europe as complete and formidable an ensemble of 6th, 12th and 13th century defensive works, a more interesting subject of study, a situation more picturesque.

THE CITY MUSEUM

The City Museum of sculptured stones, created in 1925, is a response to the wishes expressed by the different archeological congresses held at Carcassonne. They called for the collection into one place of the different fragments scattered throughout the City and housed in the Municipal Museum in the Lower Town.

The Museum of sculptured stones housed in the Count's Castle, comprises ten rooms and is formed by two major collections.

The Viollet-le-Duc collection, comprising a series of original sculptures (12th and 14th centuries) from the Church of St. Nazaire, together with mouldings of the originals; and also the models made according to the instructions of Viollet-le-Duc, for the restoration of the outside and inside sculptures of that church.

After examining the Viollet-le-Duc collection, the visitor will admire the Virgin with the Bird (14th cent.) also called the Smiling Virgin, a magnificent piece acquired by the State with the participation of the friends of the Town and City of Carcassonne.

Attention will next be given to a series of Romanesque capitals from the old Bishop's Palace, in the City, and six 14th century alabaster pieces from the old church of Saint-Sernin, to a 12th century ablutionary font from the Abbey of

Pontfroide, and lastly to the splendid 16th century Calvary from Villanière. Most of these objects were purchased by the Carcassonne Society of Arts and Sciences.

This collection of sculptured stones, the most remarkable pieces of which we have listed succinctly here, has been increased by many fragments of sculpture from the demolition of the old theatre of Carcassonne, formerly the church of the Jacobins.

A room in the Museum is devoted to the exhibition of graphic and photographic documents relating to the City, and comprising reproductions of all the originals in Paris, in public depositories and private collections. This series will not fail to interest all students of the history of the monument.



CONTENTS

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

	Pages
Strategical situation.....	3
Chief historical events.....	3

A VISITOR'S TOPOGRAPHICAL GUIDE

Outer enceinte.....	20
Inner enceinte.....	23
The château.....	27
The church of St. Nazaire.....	27
Conclusion	28
The city museum.....	29

ILLUSTRATIONS

- I. The great watch-tower of the château.
- II. General view from the north.
- III. The Porte Narbonnaise. Main entry.
- IV. The Aude Gate. Entry from the west.
- V. Defences of the Aude Gate.
- VI. Entry of the château.
- VII. The Church of Saint-Nazaire.

PETITES MONOGRAPHIES

NOTICES HISTORIQUES ET GUIDES DU VISITEUR

PARIS VU DES TOURS DE NOTRE-DAME, par Yvonne A. MORANCÉ.

LA SAINTE-CHAPELLE, par Wanda RABAUD, Bibliothécaire à l'Ecole Nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts.
L'ouvrage existe également en édition anglaise.

LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE L'ARSENAL, par Frantz CALOT, Conservateur de la Bibliothèque.

LE PANTHÉON ET LA MONTAGNE SAINTE-GENEVIÈVE, par Frantz CALOT, Conservateur de la Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal.

LE TOMBEAU DE NAPOLEON, par le Colonel Pol PAYARD, Sous-Directeur du Musée de l'Armée.
L'ouvrage existe également en édition anglaise.

L'ÉCOLE DES BEAUX-ARTS, par Gabriel ROUCHÈS, Conservateur-adjoint au Musée du Louvre.

SCEAUX, son Château, son Parc, par H. SOULANGE-BODIN.

PORT-ROYAL ET LE JANSÉNISME, par Frantz CALOT, Conservateur de la Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal et Louis-Marie MICHON, conservateur à la Direction des Bibliothèques.

LE CHATEAU DE PIERREFONDS, par VIOLETT-LE-DUC.
Nouvelle édition mise à jour par le Capitaine du Halgouët.

BEAUVAIS, par Jean AJALBERT, de l'Académie Goncourt, ancien directeur de la Manufacture Nationale de Beauvais.

LE MONT-SAINT-MICHEL, par G.-M. CHAUVÉAU.
L'ouvrage existe également en édition anglaise.

LE CHATEAU D'AZAY-LE-RIDEAU, par G.-M. CHAUVÉAU.
L'ouvrage existe également en édition anglaise.

LA CITÉ DE CARCASSONNE, par VIOLETT-LE-DUC, et guide du visiteur, par Michel JORDY.
L'ouvrage existe également en édition anglaise.

FRÉJUS, par Jules FORMIGÉ, Architecte en chef des Monuments historiques.

L'ÉGLISE DE BROU, par P.-J. ANGOULVENT.
L'ouvrage existe également en édition anglaise.



KS-118-164

